

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURE

Landowner/user: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

A properly operated and maintained **Grade Stabilization Structure** is an asset to your property. This grade stabilization structure was designed and installed to stabilize the grade and control erosion in a natural or constructed channel or to prevent the formation or advancement of gullies. The estimated life span of this practice is at least 10 years. The life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

Operation and Maintenance

1. Avoid operating farm equipment too close to the structure.
2. Maintain a vigorous growth of desirable vegetation. This includes reseeding, fertilization and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing is needed to control height.
3. Install and maintain fences to control livestock access when adjacent fields are used for pasture.
4. Remove all debris that may accumulate near the structure.
5. Remove any obstructions or blockages of spillways, trash racks or pipe inlets.
6. Eradicate or otherwise remove all burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
7. Control the growth of brush or other undesirable vegetation by use of herbicides and/or mowing. Avoid direct contact with flowing water and herbicides.
8. Make sure that structure drainage systems are functional and that soil particles are not being transported through the drainage system. Repair or replace if necessary. Small animal (rodent) guards shall always be kept in place.
9. Determine and eliminate causes of settlement crack in the earthen sections and repair damage.
10. Repair spalls, cracks and weathered areas in concrete surfaces
11. Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and paint.
12. Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to construction grade.

Specific Requirements for Your Practice
